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"Since taking a winter holiday, I feel fine, sleep well at night, work, have appetite and feel full the whole night through, and never feel tired or run-down." F.H.C.

They are the results of these exercises and are tried and proven—never fails. They will start TONIGHT to help you to regain your health. IRVONA is the only product which rapidly and effectively helps the blood cells, and fortifies the body. It is a tonic, a stimulant, a tonic, a restorative. Take IRVONA now. From all reliable chemists and druggists. It is also available from IRVONA (Dept. H.A.), 150 New Bond Street, London, W. 1.

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LONDON  
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a treat when  
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Unobtainable in London and the S. E. Counties

## Kirovograd, One Of Manstein's Last

Bastions, Falls: Nazi Positions In The Bend Collapsing Like Cards

BILLIONS OF HUNS ARE FACING  
WAR'S GREATEST DISASTER

FROM HAROLD KING, REUTER'S SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**W**ITH the vital city of Kirovograd in Russian hands—it capture was announced tonight in an Order of the Day by Marshal Stalin—Manstein's army group in South Russia is facing overwhelming disaster, and the nightmare which has haunted him since the Red Army's autumn Dnieper breakthrough has become a reality.

The whole German front, from the Upper Bug to the eastern end of the Dnieper Bend, is collapsing like a house of cards, and the capture of Kirovograd will hasten that collapse. MILLIONS OF GERMAN TROOPS NOW FACE CATASTROPHE ON AN UNPARALLELED SCALE.

Koniev's Second Ukrainian Army is moving swiftly westwards. In four days said tonight's Order of the Day, it has penetrated into the enemy line to a depth of from 30 to 30 miles on a front 80 miles wide.

Eight German divisions, three tank, one mechanised, and four infantry, were routed in the course of this fighting, which has resulted in Koniev breaking decisively the backbone of the enemy Dnieper Line.

Less than 80 miles to the west Gen. Vatutin's, advancing on a 300-mile front, is rippling up the Hun front line and severing the great Dnieper salient from its base.

Gen. Koniev's massive victory at Kirovograd—nerve centre of German resistance—means that the Germans have unquestionably lost the Battle of the Dnieper Bend.

With their front smashed in half and enormous losses inflicted, the collapse of their whole position throughout the Bend is only a matter of time—and a short time at that.

*Kirovograd has opened up the sluice gates and the Red Army is pouring through the gap, making for the key railway centre of Novo-Ukraine and for the River Bug beyond.*

The escape gap still remaining to the Germans holding Kirovograd and Nikopol is narrow, and every westwards. In such a position they do not let up their pressure. Just as the small trap closed round Kirovograd, so the big trap round the whole remaining Dnieper Bend may close soon.

## NO HELP FROM MANSTEIN

Prospects for the success of such an operation—a possibility that Gen. Manstein has had to reckon even though he decided to hold on to his Dnieper Bend position—were never better. His divisions can expect no help from other sectors.

They are completely cut off from the German armies in the north, and must now look for succour to their immediate neighbours in the west, who are fully committed to the battle. The only hope held out by Vatutin is that the Red Army, driving south-west from Kirovograd, will reach the Odessa railway and cut their line of retreat.

The trend seems to be that, just as they did at Stalingrad, the Germans have hung on to long.

Sadman's generals played a devious game. Instead of at once nipping off the German forces in the north, they waited, calculating through at Kirovograd, they merely put on sufficient pressure there to give the Germans the impression that this was their design.

The enemy seems to have assumed that, because Krushchev did not fall they had the measure of the Red Army.

The fall of Kirovograd is only recently revealed by the swift switching of the Russian pressure to the 200-mile front of the "sudden side-punch" to the south towards Vinnytsia.

The fall of Kirovograd yesterday is the latest snapping of this huge pincer.

The jaws of the Russian bear are tightly shut on the Dnieper, and the teeth are grinding down at Kirovograd, Vinnytsia, Rovno, and Odesa.

Each of these points is a railway junction, a vital crossroads on which the Germans and the Nazis cannot feed their forces or resupply them.

With Kirovograd and Rovno are reached the cutting of the German line will be as complete as anything in the war.

Little wonder the whole Russian people are thrilled with the joy of victory.

**SLESSOR TO  
COMMAND RAF IN  
MEDITERRANEAN**

With the approval of President Roosevelt and the Prime Minister, Air-Marshal Sir John Slessor has been appointed deputy to General Sir Alan Brooke, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Allied Air Forces. Under General Brooke he will command all RAF units in the Mediterranean.

Air-Marshal Slessor's Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Coastal Command, is to be taken over by Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder.

Air-Marshal Slessor is forty-six. Before his appointment to Coastal Command he was Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Royal Air Force, and an Assistant Chief of Air Staff.

Air-Marshal Sir Sholto Douglas, five years old, was formerly an A.O.C.-in-Chief, Fighter Command.

*(Continued in Back Page)*

## "The Decisive Round"

GERMAN military experts believe that the war will be decided, not by the Second Front, but by the battles now being fought in Russia. The German Overseas News Agency stated last night:

It said: "The Soviet attacks on the Eastern front are not yet related to the main effort of the German military command, which is concentrated in the Dnieper Bend, where south and north of Kirovograd, as far as the Kerchese fighting is going on."

In the Kerchese area the main Soviet attacks are just now related to the main effort of the German military command, which is concentrated in the Dnieper Bend, where south and north of Kirovograd, as far as the Kerchese fighting is going on."

In Berlin there is no doubt that the present battles are the decisive round, and that the Eastern front will unquestionably be decided on the Eastern front—not in the Dnieper offensive, or unavailing in the west.

Reuter.

Latest reports reaching Berlin indicate no slackening in the fury of the Soviet attacks, particularly in the Dnieper Bend, where south and north of Kirovograd, as far as the Kerchese fighting is going on."

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Reuter.

"Here operations have split up into separate actions with Soviet troops at some points facing east and the Germans facing west." Reuter.

The Russian  
Front Last Night



## GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS FEAR CIVIL WAR

THEY OFFER TO  
'DUMP HITLER'FROM HAROLD HUTCHINSON, B.U.P. Correspondent  
Washington, Saturday.

**G**ERMANY's biggest industrialists are getting ready to throw Hitler overboard. Reliable reports have reached Washington this week that they have representatives in neutral countries who are seeking favourable peace terms.

In return they will give up the conquered territory Germany now occupies—and Hitler.

Emil Ludwig, the famous German emigre writer, estimates that 200,000 German industrialists are ready to renew their ties with their pre-war associates in America and elsewhere in the hope of preventing a revolution in Germany.

It is thought in Washington that the industrialists will be willing to surrender East Prussia as a first step.

The greatest anxiety is that, if Britain and America—but not Russia—should accept this peace offer at the earliest possible moment in order to prevent the disintegration of Germany, the German industrialists would be in a position of great strength.

Two brothers, who might have met on opposite sides in battle, are to fight it out in Devon.

One is an American soldier and the other an Italian prisoner of war.

The Italian, a party of one, is being driven to work on a farm, was sent to see his brother.

He asked the driver to stop, and there was an extraordinary exchange of words in Italian and German.

The brother on the winning side had left Italy many years ago and became an American citizen.

Both sides are ready to hand the Nazi war machine over to the German sections of the German High Command are willing to do this, but not to do it to Hitler, and already one general is thought to have been chosen to play a role similar to that taken by General von Kluge.

Johnnes Steel, a U.S. radio commentator, asserted that a part of the German High Command, including the group of Germans, including the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, Prince Hubertus von Loewenstein, and Countess Rose von Koenigswarter, are to be made available to the Allies.

On the other side, the German action, there was reconnaissance, action, and exchanges of artillery fire.

During January 7 all German tanks were destroyed, while 28 enemy planes shot down in air combat by A.A. fire. Reuter.

140 More  
Places Are  
Captured

*Communiqué*

*THE ADVENTURES OF OXYDOL'S BUSY BUBBLES*

**BROTHERS—  
BUT 'FOES'  
IN ARMS!**

**Two Brothers**  
**But 'Foes'**  
**In Arms!**

**Two Brothers</**













# Victory Year's Non-Stop Blitz Of Hitler's Fortress

## ARMS SWITCH

Huns Using  
'Out-Of-Date'  
Weapons Now

ALLIED arms now pouring into front-line fortresses have been many Hitler's weapons out of date.

That is shown by study of captures made by the foreign material branch of the U.S. War Department's Maryland plant, showing all types of military equipment.

The American ordnance experts in the plant have been studying the German in the technical development of all equipment to the point of capturing the Ordnance Intelligence Division of the U.S. Army.

Lack of vital materials shortages of manpower are forcing German ordnance chiefs to develop different uses for equipment already in existence.

German tanks, now unable to withstand the might of night-bombed American fortresses, have been forced into performing tasks differing radically from those for which they were originally designed.

It is men's amounts of material and supplies from Italy and the Balkans, which have caused the German High Command to panic.

Instead of swift, concentrated thrusts with great masses of equipment, the Germans are thinning out and lengthening their lines, offering opportunities for Allied breakthroughs. Reuter.

**8,000 SORTIES IN 1944's FIRST SEVEN DAYS**

BY OUR AIR CORRESPONDENT

**BRITISH** and American air forces operating from Britain have set the war pace for "Victory" year. Allied planes, continuing their "rocket coast" offensive across the Channel yesterday, rounded off the most intense air assault week in the Nazi war.

In the first seven days of 1944 nearly 8,000 sorties were flown down by Allied bombers and night fighters over Europe.

Many tons of bombs blasted Hitler's "fortress" from the Atlantic to the Eastern Front, from the English Channel to the Western Mediterranean.

Every day and every night.

Altogether, 10,000 sorties of German aircraft over occupied territory.

The authorities have admitted that the Germans are now using aircraft to drop the *Ordinary Intelligence Division* of the U.S. Army.

Lack of vital materials, shortages of manpower are forcing German ordnance chiefs to develop different uses for equipment already in existence.

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## Universal War Service Plan To 'Save Lives'

FROM JOHN W. REUTER

Reuter's Special Correspondent

Washington, Saturday.

RECOMMENDING UNIFORM

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